

So, ladies and gentlemen, all in favor of electing these nine former Members to a 3-year term on our board of directors, please say "yea." All opposed? Hearing no opposition, the slate has been elected by the membership.

And next we'll elect our executive committee. The candidates for a 2-year term as president and vice president are—this is a little embarrassing—Connie Morella of Maryland for president, Barbara Kennelly of Connecticut for vice president. All in favor of electing these two former Members to a 2-year term on the executive committee, please say "yea." All opposed? Hearing no opposition, the slate has been elected by the membership. Incidentally, I want you to know—I think this will be the first time in history we're going to have two gals at the helm, president and vice president. Thank you. It's a great honor.

The candidates for a one-year term on our Executive Committee are:

Jim Walsh of New York for Treasurer
Bill Delahunt of Massachusetts for Secretary

Dennis Hertel of Michigan for Past President Executive Member

All in favor of electing these three former Members to a 1-year term on our executive committee, please say "yea." All opposed? Hearing no opposition, the slate has been elected by the membership.

Thank you.

Now, for the very sad part of the meeting this morning. It's now my sad duty to inform the Congress of those former and current members who have passed away since our last report. I ask all of you, including any visitors in the gallery, to rise as I read the names, and at the end of the list we will pay our respect to their memory with a moment of silence. We honor these men and women for their service to our country. They are:

James Abdnor of South Dakota
Perkins Bass of New Hampshire
Hugh Carey of New York
Robert W. Daniel, Jr., of Virginia
Edward Derwinski of Illinois
Charles Gubser of California
Katie Hall of Indiana
Mark Hatfield of Oregon
Bill Janklow of South Dakota
Ed Jenkins of Georgia
James "Jim" Lloyd of California
Norm Lent of New York
Richard Mallory of Vermont
Matthew "Marty" Martinez of California
Clarence E. Miller of Ohio
Erwin Mitchell of Georgia
Carlos Moorhead of California
James M. Quigley of Pennsylvania
Charles Whalen, Jr., of Ohio
Howard Wolpe of Michigan
Orvin B. Fjare of Montana
Melton D. Hancock of Missouri
Frank R. Mascara of Pennsylvania
Donald Payne of New Jersey
Charles H. Percy of Illinois
Richard H. Poff of Virginia
Malcolm Wallop of Wyoming
William C. Wampler of Virginia

Thank you. You may be seated.

This concludes the 42nd report to Congress by the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress. We want

to thank the Congress, the Speaker, and the minority leader for giving us the opportunity to return to this revered Chamber and to report on our association's activities, and we look forward to another active and productive year. Thank you all for being here, and I will turn it over to the speaker, Madam Speaker.

Ms. KENNELLY. The Chair, again, wishes to thank the former Members and the Members of the House and Senate who stepped in to see us.

The Chair announces that 19 former Members of Congress responded to the call of the roll.

Before terminating these proceedings, the Chair would like to invite those Members who did not respond when the rollcall was called to give their names to the Reading Clerk for inclusion in the roll.

Thank you all for coming, and I think we're looking forward to a very exciting day.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Rabbi Joel Levenson, Congregation B'nai Jacob, Woodbridge, Connecticut, offered the following prayer:

We invoke Your blessing for good judgment, wisdom, and understanding upon this House and all of its esteemed Members. Keep them mindful of our trust. Bestow upon them strength, determination, and willpower to do instead of just to pray, to become instead of merely to wish.

Watch over the men and women who serve our country. For Your sake and ours, may our land be safe, secure, and a source of goodness and our lives blessed.

May we repair this world and fill it with decency, justice, and peace, a world for which the prophet Isaiah prayed centuries ago when he said:

Let justice well up as water and righteousness as a mighty stream.

May the words that we pray and the deeds that we do be acceptable before You, O Lord, our ever-present inspiration, rock, and redeemer.

And let us say, Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING RABBI JOEL LEVENSON

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege this morning to welcome Rabbi Joel Levenson of Congregation B'nai Jacob in Woodbridge, Connecticut, to the House of Representatives.

When Joel graduated from Miami University of Ohio, he thought about going to either law school or rabbinical school, but thought the world already had too many lawyers and not enough men of faith. After graduating from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and serving under Rabbi Albert Lewis—the subject of Mitch Albom's book, "Have a Little Faith"—in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, Rabbi Levenson came to Woodbridge, Connecticut, where he has been the spiritual leader of Congregation B'nai Jacob since 2008.

There he has gained a reputation as a dynamic and inspiring presence on the pulpit, and he; his wife, Leora, who is with us today; and his children, Shir, Sam, and Gideon, have become warm and caring members of the community. We are joined by what we call the mishpucha up in the gallery this morning, and we welcome them all today.

Over his time in Woodbridge, Rabbi Levenson has been dedicated to promoting social justice and spiritual growth throughout Connecticut, and he has worked to foster a strong sense of Jewish identity, a joyful and inspiring congregation, and innovative educational opportunities throughout the synagogue.

Rabbi Levenson personally teaches preschool classes and meets with and works with Woodbridge teenagers, including leading them on trips to Israel. He has also worked extensively with Outreach to young families. And he is a dedicated cyclist and triathlete who has taken part in the Israel ride, a

yearly ride across the 400 miles from Jerusalem to Eliat.

I thank Rabbi Levenson for his commitment to improving our community and for his profound words this morning.

Rabbi Levenson, we thank you for leading us in today's invocation.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1379. An act to amend title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, to revise certain administrative authorities of the District of Columbia courts, and to authorize the District of Columbia Public Defender Service to provide professional liability insurance for officers and employees of the Service for claims relating to services furnished within the scope of employment with the Service.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROSELEHTINEN). The Chair will entertain 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REPEAL OBAMACARE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, tomorrow House Republicans will vote for the 32nd time to repeal, defund, or dismantle the President's government health care take-over bill. Not only will this legislation grow the size of government, limiting freedom, it will also levy 21 new or higher taxes on Americans and small businesses, causing the destruction of jobs.

If ObamaCare is not repealed beginning on January 1, 2013, a 3.8 percent capital gains tax on investment income will go into effect, destroying jobs in the home building and real estate industries.

The National Federation of Independent Business, NFIB, America's largest association of small businesses, has estimated ObamaCare will destroy 1.6 million jobs.

In order for our Nation to recover, ObamaCare must be repealed, and the government and Congress must pass legislation that encourages job creation through private sector job growth.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

MIDDLE CLASS TAX CUTS

(Ms. HOCHUL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOCHUL. Madam Speaker, after a week of traveling my district from

Lancaster to Warsaw in upstate New York, I heard one consistent message. Our constituents, particularly the middle class, want to know their economic situation. They want to know, they're asking this Congress: Are you going to extend the tax cuts that they've now enjoyed to the tune of \$1,500 to \$2,500 a year? That's an important answer we should be able to give them this week.

Instead of looking backwards and re-litigating old battles, why don't we look forward and give them the confidence they need as they're making their plans?

Families all across my district are doing what I did as a mother for 15 years every summer trying to figure out how much are you going to spend on school shopping in the fall. Are you going to be able to plan that vacation with your family? What about Christmas shopping? You're thinking about it now. Maybe you can even squeeze in enough money to go to a Buffalo Bills game with your family.

Let's give them the certainty they need now. Let's work in a bipartisan way, Democrats and Republicans together. Let's enact a permanent middle class tax cut.

THE DOJ IS ON THE WRONG SIDE OF JUSTICE AGAIN, PART II

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, at this moment, Attorney General Eric Holder is going to deliver a speech at a conference in Houston, Texas.

A media advisory issued by the Department of Justice said, "NOTE: All media must present government-issued photo ID (such as a driver's license) as well as valid media credentials."

In order to hear him speak, media must present a valid government photo ID. I assume this is to prevent unauthorized individuals from being able to enter the auditorium.

I suspect Mr. Holder will rant about Texas' having a voter ID law to vote, however. You see, Madam Speaker, the Justice Department is also in court today suing Texas, claiming that the Texas voter ID law disenfranchises people. It seems to me the law would only disenfranchise fraudulent voters.

Never mind the Supreme Court has already upheld voter ID laws. Madam Speaker, the DOJ just ignores Supreme Court decisions it doesn't like and continues its war against Texas.

Holder is inconsistent. He believes in security and photo IDs for people when he speaks, but rejects ballot security and IDs for people when they vote.

Security is important. Security prevents unauthorized individuals from entering an auditorium or voting who shouldn't enter the auditorium or shouldn't vote. But the DOJ doesn't care about being hypocritical.

The DOJ, Madam Speaker, is once again on the wrong side of justice.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1210

HEALTH CARE REPEAL

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, last week I visited with seniors who live at Wilfred Manor in Central Falls, Rhode Island. They asked me to deliver a message when I returned to Washington: The time for fighting over health care reform has ended. Now our elected officials should work together to make sure this law works effectively for all American families.

Instead, Republicans have chosen to once again spend valuable legislative time trying to score political points.

What concerns me the most is how their actions would impact my constituents, folks like Rita Manley, a senior who lives in Central Falls. Rita was recently diagnosed with cancer, and if Republicans did succeed in repealing health care reform, millions of men and women like Rita could be denied coverage based on preexisting conditions.

I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to refrain from starting this debate all over again and instead focus their energy and attention on getting people back to work by taking up critical jobs legislation.

OBAMACARE RULING

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. You know, last month, the Supreme Court made its regrettable ruling to uphold the President's job-killing tax program known as ObamaCare. While the High Court may have deemed it constitutional as a tax, Americans deem it burdensome and unaffordable.

ObamaCare boasts \$500 billion in tax hikes, 150 new Federal bureaucracies, and \$1.76 trillion added to the growing national debt, not to mention the massive amounts of red tape and legalese that get in the way of patients and their doctors.

Before we know it, going to the doctor will feel more like a trip to the DMV, the Department of Motor Vehicles. Our Tax-and-Spender-in-Chief needs to stop throwing more hard-earned tax dollars at a broken health care system and start working with Congress to implement commonsense reforms.

We can make coverage more accessible, more affordable, and give Americans the freedom to choose their health care plan. Our first step is to repeal ObamaCare this week.